



Second Baptist Church of Elgin, Illinois, Inc.

1280 Summit Street ♦ P.O. Box 1181

Elgin, Illinois 60121 ♦ Established In 1866

Phone: (847) 695-7757

Rev. Dr. Nathaniel L. Edmond, Pastor

Fax: (847) 695-7998

January 6, 2021

Ms. Courtney Avery
Board Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and
Service Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street Floor 2
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Administrator Avery:

I am Rev. Dr. Nathaniel L. Edmond, Pastor Emeritus of the Second Baptist Church of Elgin. We are a historic fellowship founded by a group of ex-slaves in 1866. I am writing to oppose application 20-040, in which Ortho Illinois proposes to establish an ambulatory surgery center in Elgin. It is my understanding that Ortho Illinois will not be caring for the underserved from our community in their new center. Their center would not benefit our community. Therefore, I stand in opposition.

The community partnership in Elgin is with and through Advocate Sherman Hospital. Advocate Sherman provides care for the entire community, regardless of financial status. Sherman provides a "safety net" to those who cannot afford medical services. A significant amount of resources is dedicated to charitable care for the community.

Our church has partnered with Advocate Sherman through countless education forums and health fairs. They provide support and supplies for our Healthcare Ministry. Sherman provided community Covid-19 testing at our site for the community. They participate in our Women's Conference to provide health information for the women of the church and community.

In addition, in our community, Advocate Sherman sponsors the MIH (Mobile Integrated Health) free service to many uninsured and underinsured. They have a Diabetes Education Program for the Latino community, work with the FQHCs, partners with Alignment Collaborative for Education, which provides support for U-46 School District, and blood pressure testing and diabetes medication management for seniors. These programs are a direct benefit for the Elgin community.

I believe the approval of the Ortho application would adversely affect Advocate Sherman and adversely affect the Elgin Community.

Again, I urge you not to approve this application.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Nathaniel L. Edmond, Pastor Emeritus
Second Baptist Church of Elgin